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Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /069 W
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R 180905Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5582
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 2382

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, JA
SUBJECT: DSP PROPOSES ROK-USSR TALKS

SUMMARY. CHAIRMAN OFDEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST PARTY (DSP) HAS PROPOSED TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR THAT USSR HOLD TALKS WITH ROK. PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS NOT NEW AND WHICH IS UNLIKELY TO ELICIT POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM SOVIETS, PROBABLY WAS MEANT TO PUBLICIZE DSP'S ROLE AS ONLY OPPOSITION PARTY WITH CONSTRUCTIVE LINKS TO ROK. END SUMMARY.

1. FEBRUARY 18 ASAHI CARRIED FRONTPAGE REPORT OF MEETING FEBRUARY 17 BETWEEN DSP CHAIRMAN KASUGA AND SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN POLYANSKY CONCERNING KOREA. KASUGA IS REPORTED TO HAVE PROPOSED THAT FOUR GREAT POWERS IN CONFIDENTIAL

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REGION (JAPAN, CHINA, USSR AND US) MEET TO DISCUSS EASING OF TENSIONS ON KOREAN PENINSULA WITH FIRST STEP TOWARD FOUR-POWER MEETING BEING "PRIVATE-LEVEL" TALKS BETWEEN ROK AND USSR. ASAHI SAID THAT IN MAKING PROPOSAL, DSP, WHICH HAS REGULAR CONTACTS WITH ROK ASSEMBLYMEN, SEEMED TO BE ACTING AS INTERMEDIARY FOR ROK. ARTICLE REPORTS POLYANSKY AS TELLING KASUGA ONLY THAT HE WOULD

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REFER MATTER TO MOSCOW AND WANTED TO DISCUSS IT FURTHER.

2. WHEN QUERIED, DSP INTERNATIONAL BUREAU DIRECTOR KAWAMURA TOLD EMBOFF KASUGA-POLYANSKY TALKS ON KOREA COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED NEW DEMARCHE SINCE DSP HAS HELD SAME VIEWS FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND HAD ALREADY PROPOSED ROK-USSR TALKS DURING 1975 MISSION TO MOSCOW. KAWAMURA THOUGHT SOVIET RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE SAME AS IN 1975, NEGATIVE.

3. COMMENT. DSP IS ONLY JAPANESE OPPOSITION PARTY WITH REGULAR LINKS TO ROK POLITICS. IT CAN BE EXPECTED TO PLAY UP ITS POTENTIAL PEACE-MAKING ROLE AS CONTACT FOR BOTH ROK AND OPPOSITION (NDP) AS KOREA-RELATED PROBLEMS TAKE CENTER STAGE IN TOKYO. THIS MOTIVE PROBABLY REINFORCED BY PUBLICITY GIVEN TO RECENT TRIPS BY CGP'S TAKEIRI TO PRC AND BY JSP'S KUNO TO PYONGYANG. KASUGA-POLYANSKY TALKS TOOK PLACE JUST AFTER CLOSE OF ROK-JAPAN PARLIAMENTARIAN MEETINGS IN TOKYO, FACTOR WHICH PRE-SUMABLY AFFECTED THEIR TIMING.

4. UNLIKE OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES, DSP HAS NOT JUMPED ON KCIA PROBE BANDWAGON. DSP DIETMAN ROO WATANABE, WHO WILL BE IN US FROM FEBRUARY 21 TO 28 WITH INTRA-PARTY GROUP OF JAPANESE DIETMEN ON US-JAPAN PARLIAMENTARY EXCHANGE PROGRAM, TOLD EMBOFF HE INTENDS TO DISCUSS KOREA MATTERS WITH CONGRESSIONAL AND STATE PERSONNEL ONLY IN OVERALL CONTEXT, NOT IN KCIA CONTEXT. HE WOULD PARTICULARLY APPRECIATE MEETING WITH EA/J-SHERMAN
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WHILE IN WASHINGTON.
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Message Attributes

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